

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application:

Alan Elbanhawy

Serial No.: 10/682,107

Filed: October 9, 2003

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES
CONTAINING ON-CHIP CURRENT
SENSOR AND METHODS FOR MAKING
SUCH DEVICES

Confirmation No. 8232

Group Art Unit: 2822

Examiner: M. Prenty

Mail Stop Issue

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

CLARIFICATION OF THE RECORD

Prior to issuance of the present application, Applicant respectfully requests consideration and entry of the following comments, and the Office's agreement to these comments.

Prosecution History

1. Office Action (June 2006). Examiner Prenty allowed claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-13, 27-31, and 35, rejected claims 14, 18-22, 25, 26, and 33, and objected to claims 15-17, 23, 32, and 34 as containing allowable subject matter.

2. Amendment (October 2006). Applicant amended both the rejected claims (14, 18-22, 25, 26, and 33) and the objected claims (15-17, 23, 32, and 34) to incorporate some of the

allowable subject matter. Claim 15 was accordingly canceled. Applicant therefore maintained that all of the pending claims should be allowed.

3. Notice of Allowance (November 2006). Examiner Prenty allows the application. In the Notice of Allowability, Examiner Prenty indicated that claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-14, 16-23, and 25-35 were allowed. Attached to the Notice of Allowability was an Examiner's Comment which, in essence, argued that claims 14, 18-22, 25, 16, and 33 continued to be unpatentable over the prior art of record.

4. Request for Withdrawal of Examiner's Comment (December 2006). Applicant requested that the Examiner's Comment be withdrawn since it does not follow the Offices' guidelines and obviously conflicted with the Notice of Allowance and Notice of Allowability.

5. Examiner Interview with SPE Smith (January 2007). Since the Examiner's Comment was not withdrawn, Applicant attempted to hold an interview with Examiner Prenty. Examiner Prenty would not grant the interview and referred Applicant to Supervisory Examiner (SPE) Smith. SPE Smith granted an interview on January 17, 2007, during which Applicant explained the concerns of the conflict between the Notice of Allowability and the Examiner's Comment. SPE Smith indicated that a Supplemental Notice of Allowability would be issued.

6. Supplemental Notice of Allowability (February 2007). Examiner Prenty mailed a Supplemental Notice of Allowability in which claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-14, 16-23, and 25-35 were again indicated as allowed. Attached to the Supplemental Notice of Allowability was an

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance which referred to page 4 of the Office Action of February 28, 2005 and to page 5 of the Office Action of June 19, 2006. These two pages of their respective Office Actions indicated that certain claims were allowable or contained allowable subject matter.

Clarification

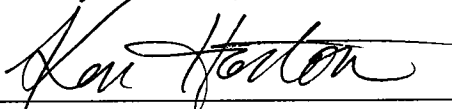
What the Supplemental Notice of Allowability did not do was clarify the record. Even after providing these references to prior Office actionS, the intentions of Examiner Prenty remain unclear. Applicant believes that Examiner Prenty meant to withdraw the Examiner's Comment and substitute in its place the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance which pointed to the reasons that the claims were allowed.

Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Office indicate that the Examiner's Comment of November 2006 is stricken from the record, leaving the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance (of February 2007) in its place.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0843.

If there is any question about these comments, Applicant requests a personal phone call to the undersigned as early as possible at (801) 328-3600.

Respectfully Submitted,

By 
KENNETH E. HORTON
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Date: March 26, 2007